First Congregational
United Church of Christ

111 S. Wallace Blvd. Ypsilanti, MI 48197
(Mailing Address: P.O. Box 980413 Ypsilanti, MI 48198)
www.ypsiucc.org

An open and affirming community committed to peace and justice

September 4, 2022
10:00 am

“A New Identity”
13th Sunday after Pentecost

No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey, You are welcome here!

WORSHIP ON ZOOM -- Zoom opens at 9:30 am Sunday morning.

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7643282234

Meeting ID: 764 328 2234
Passcode: Ypsi1882
To join by phone, dial the number, 1-312-626-6799

- Welcome to Ypsilanti First Congregational UCC's Zoom Worship Service
- Hymns are included in the worship bulletin. A separate hymnal is not needed.
- If you are joining worship for the first-time on Zoom, please add your name and email to the chat so the Zoomie Greeter can introduce you.
- Thank you for choosing to worship with us today!

OPEN AND AFFIRMING COVENANT OF
First Congregational United Church of Christ, Ypsilanti

First Congregational United Church of Christ, Ypsilanti celebrates everyone, including people of all ages, races, cultures, sexual orientations, gender identifies and expressions, family configurations, economic circumstances, physical, cognitive or emotional abilities, education or spiritual or religious traditions. All are welcome to participate fully in the life, leadership, ministry, and missions of this church as we seek to grow together in a safe, nurturing community of faith. We strive to demonstrate in all ways that "NO MATTER WHO YOU ARE OR WHERE YOU ARE ON LIFE'S JOURNEY, YOU ARE WELCOME HERE!"

a just world for all
ucc.org

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE *Start Zoom Recoding to Cloud **JOSHUA CATANIA**

"All Creatures of Our God", St. Francis of Assisi

RINGING THE BELL **MARTY KLEINO**

WELCOME **PASTOR LIZ**

- A warm welcome to all, including first-time visitors.
- As stated in our Open and Affirming Covenant (previous page), all persons are welcome in this community of faith. **September--we celebrate the birthdays of folks in our faith community born in the month of September by singing "Happy Birthday." Folks with Sept birthdays according to Church records are: Tad Wysor, Lillian Long, Kelsie Horvath, Desayre Penn, Helen Mate. Happy Birthday!**

ANNOUNCEMENTS **IVAN HARNER**

- **COMMUNITY SHARING OF OTHER ANNOUNCMENTS:**
  - The Worship Leader and Greeter is Ivan Harner.
  - The Greeter will introduce folks participating in worship.
  - Please share your announcements so everyone can learn what is happening in our beloved ministry community.
  - **This is the first Sunday of the month; we will be sharing communion during this service.**
  - **Please gather your own elements. Creativity is a blessing.**
  - Please submit written announcements to Margaret Harner, Worship Coordinator, margaretsharner@gmail.com, by midnight on Tuesday.

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

GATHERING HYMN *Microphone muted **TIFFANIE WALDRON**

"Perpetual Praise!"
1 SING

CALL TO WORSHIP *Responsive with mics muted **IVAN HARNER**

Leader: Come to Christ, a living stone, rejected by mortals

People: But approved nonetheless, chosen and precious in God's eyes.

Leader: And we are living stones as well:

People: We are being built as an edifice of spirit, to become a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices to God through Christ.

Leader: Amen.

People: Amen.

HYMN *Microphone muted **TIFFANIE WALDRON**

"God of Change and Glory"
177 NCH

LISTENING FOR GOD

FIRST READING **Jeremiah 18:1-6** **IVAN HARNER**

SECOND READING **Philemon 1:1-21** **PASTOR LIZ**

HYMN *Microphone muted **TIFFANIE WALDRON**

"You're Not So Different from Me"
74 ES

MORNING MESSAGE **"A New Identity"** **PASTOR LIZ**

CONVERSING WITH THE HOLY ONE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *Pause Zoom recording
*Zoomies: Please turn on your microphone

You are invited to share your joys and petitions for prayer.
Please unmute your microphone to share a joy or make a prayer of petition.
At the end of each joy or petition, please say **"God in your mercy"**
We will respond (with microphones muted) **"Hear our prayers"**

PASTORAL PRAYER *Restart Zoom recording **PASTOR LIZ**

DISCIPLES' PRAYER *Unison with Microphone muted **PASTOR LIZ**

Eternal Spirit, Father and Mother of us all,
Holy is your name.
Let justice and mercy fill all creation
And let us recognize
That every thought and thing belongs to you.
Feed us with the bread we need for today.
Forgive our sins
As we forgive those who sin against us.
Stand with us in trial and temptation.
Free us from the grip of all that is evil.
For you alone are creating our universe,
Now and forever.
Amen.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY INVITATION **PASTOR LIZ**

Our electronic giving platform is Tithe.ly: Link to Tithe.ly

Please place in-person offerings in the gold offertory plate on the table by the door.

Checks can be mailed to:
First Congregational United Church of Christ
PO Box 980413, Ypsilanti, MI 48198

Thank you for your generosity!

OFFERTORY **"Thank You, God",** Brian Wren **JOSHUA CATANIA**

DOXOLOGY *Microphone muted **TIFFANIE WALDRON**

"Take My Gifts" v.2 562 NCH

Take the fruits that I have gathered from the tree your Spirit sowed,

Harvest of your own compassion, juice that makes the wine of God,

Spiced with humor, laced with laughter, flavor of the Jesus life,

Tang of risk and new adventure, taste and zest beyond belief.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION *Unison with Microphone muted **IVAN HARNER**

God, we dedicate to you our lives and all we have. Everything we are is an offering to you.
As we find ourselves blessed in this moment and in this space, accept what we have,
both financial and in service, as our humble gratitude to you
for all you have done in the world, in our community, in our church, and in our lives.
Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMN *Microphone muted **TIFFANIE WALDRON**

"Come to the Table of Grace"
112 SING

COMMUNION SERVICE **PASTOR LIZ**

No matter who you are and where you are on life's journey, you are welcome at Christ's table!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING **PASTOR LIZ**

DEPARTING WITH PRAISE

CLOSING HYMN *Microphone muted * **TIFFANIE WALDRON**

"All Servants of God"
67 ES

BENEDICTION *Unison with mics muted **PASTOR LIZ**

Now, go with God's peace in your hearts!
Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people.
Once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy!
Amen.

POSTLUDE **"By Whatever Name We Call You"** **JOSHUA CATANIA**
Dosia Carlson

PASSING THE PEACE **FRIENDS GATHERED**

- Share a greeting with others as we transition to our casual **Friendship Time.**

Zoom Only Sunday Worship 10:00 am

Rev. Liz Larrivee, Pastor & Spiritual Director
Tiffanie Waldron, Music Director

Joshua Catania, Guest Accompanist
Jenn Zibbell, Ministry Intern
Ivan Harner, Worship Leader/Greeter
Marty Kleino, Usher & Bell Ringer
Covid Health Advisor, Patty Sherwood

YPSILANTI FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
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734-482-6980
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ATTRIBUTIONS FOR TODAY'S BULLETIN

- **Cover Art:** Photo by Carson Arias on Unsplash
- **Prayer of Dedication:** Jenn Zibbell
- **Disciples Prayer:** From the Seekers Church
- **Hymn Profiles:** *The New Century Hymnal Companion.* Pilgrim Press 1999.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Worship Next Week: Dan Kidder-McQuon, Zoom Host/Worship Leader

Congratulations Jenn Zibbell, MID! We are happy to announce that Ypsi UCC MID Jenn Zibbell has been called to serve as the Children and Youth Director for First Presbyterian Church Northville beginning September 1. As Jenn's UCC local church, we are excited and proud to send Jenn out to start this new phase of her ministry journey. A big thank-you to Jenn for proactively arranging with FPCN to be able to continue her leadership role in planning and implementing YFCUCC's September 30 Pet Blessing Ceremony.

Jenn expresses her deep gratitude for the support and opportunities she has received from Ypsi UCC. Jenn will continue her UCC MID discernment journey to authorized ministry with Ypsi UCC continuing to be her local church. Pastor Liz and Jenn's Local Church Discernment Committee (LCDC: Anne Marie Nicole-Turner & Rev. LeAnn Seto) look forward to partnering with FPCN Senior Pastor, Rev. Jacqueline Spycher, to support Jenn in her ordination process. We wish Jenn continued spiritual growth, love, and God's blessing as she begins this new ministry expression. We will miss Jenn and Tito during weekly worship. We look forward to the time their schedules may allow them to attend an YFC Friendship Lunch or other Ypsi UCC gathering in the future.

***Holy Grounds* Coffee Ministry at Trinity Health St Joseph Mercy becomes an official "Ministry" of Ypsilanti First Congregational UCC.**

During the Omicron (COVID) surge members of Ypsi UCC provided local coffee, tea, coffee cups, and single packaged snacks for the night shift at St. Joe Hospital where Rev. Dan Kidder-McQuown is the night chaplain. While the COVID crisis has partially resolved, the stress level of the night staff has not. Contributing factors include the long-term emerging effects of COVID, a lack of staff, a nation-wide nurse shortage, and staff burnout.

The night shift greatly appreciates this ministry. Please consider donating coffee that is roasted by local Michigan companies. Tea and single packaged candy or snacks are also welcome. Please contact Marty Kleino at Mgkleino@gmail.com or 734-262-1419t to have your donation delivered to St. Joes. If you would like more information about this ministry, please contact Dan Kidder-McQuown at mcq188@gmail.com or 517-240-8413

Sunday, September 18 is Hybrid Fall Kick-Off Sunday Worship. Hybrid worship (both in-person and on Zoom) resumes on Sept 18th. Look for an announcement from our Covid Health Team for updated in person guidelines posted on our website. We look forward to being together in-person again with our geographically local folks who chose to worship in this manner. While some of us will begin gathering in-person for worship on September 18, Ypsi UCC continues to be one united faith community supporting the full worship and community participation of both Roomies and Zoomies.

Sunday, September 25 1:00 pm is our Neighborhood and Community Pet Blessing Ceremony. Jenn Zibbell, MID, is Team Lead for this special event. The Pet Blessing serves as our neighborhood Meet & Greet. Our participation lets folks know there is a fun, animal loving, people loving, open and affirming faith community they may want to check out further. Because we are a small, but mighty congregation, successfully hosting this event will require a high level of participation on our part. There will be significant neighborhood canvasing, social media marketing, site set up, greeting, and site cleanup requiring volunteers. Be on the lookout for emails from Jenn detailing how we can participate. Thank you, Jenn, for your hard work in organizing and hosting this important community outreach event for our church.

Visioning Gatherings continue beginning Oct 3 on Mondays 7:00 pm via Zoom: Pastor Liz will lead us in doing the follow-up communal discernment work of identifying Ypsi UCC's unique combination of "Purpose = Identity + Context + Values" based on our spring book study on Susan Beaumont's *How to Lead When You Don't Know Where You're Going: Leading in a Liminal Season*. All are invited to participate in this important conversation about where God's Spirit is calling our faith community to serve at this critical juncture in our church's life cycle. In preparation, it would be ideal to re-read the whole book. In a nod to our busy schedules—if this is not possible—please focus on re-reading Chapter 6: "Clarifying Purpose: Who Do We Choose to Be?" Pages 113-133. Looking forward to engaging in this meaningful exploration together!

Rev. Cheryl Burke, Associate Conference Minister, Michigan Conference UCC, will be our guest preacher on October 30. Cheryl will offer a message on ***Transitions*** grounded in Susan Beaumont's book. There will be a Friendship Time Lunch after worship where we can continue the conversation more casually. Thank you, Cheryl, for sharing your gifts and expertise in support of our Monday evening communal discernment gatherings based on Beaumont's work. We look forward to your in-person visit.

Follow-up to Heather McGhee book study. The Sum of Us: What Racism Cost Everyone by Heather McGhee was one of our book studies last Fall. Tad Wysor has found a new podcast of her which he recommends to all of us. Check it out and as Tad said, let's keep stirring the pot and keep those awesome conversations elicited by the book going!!!

https://open.spotify.com/episode/30VumyrlhkZzhJ20FRYHlT?si=aUX4Qi_pSTCPnCl_i38et4EQ

OUR CHURCH'S MINISTRIES

HOLY GROUNDS

During the Omicron (COVID) surge members of Ypsi UCC provided local coffee, tea, coffee cups, and single packaged snacks for the night shift at Trinity Health St. Joe Mercy Hospital where Rev. Dan Kidder-McQuown is the night chaplain. While the COVID crisis has partially resolved, the stress level of the night staff has not. Contributing factors include the long-term emerging effects of COVID, a lack of staff, a nation-wide nurse shortage, and staff burnout. The night shift greatly appreciates this ministry of hospitality and caring.

Please consider donating coffee that is roasted by local Michigan companies. Tea and single packaged candy or snacks are also welcome. Please contact Marty Kleino at Mgkleino@gmail.com or 734-262-1419 to have your donation delivered to St. Joes. If you would like more information about this ministry, please contact Dan Kidder-McQuown at mcq188@gmail.com or 517-240-8413.

THE BEACON CENTER

The **Beacon Center** is the newest community social justice of the Ypsilanti First Congregational UCC. As a light to all persons, the Beacon Center's ministry will support the spiritual formation, creative expression, overall thriving and advocacy of at-risk students of all ages, including those affiliated with three primary local institutions of higher learning: Eastern Michigan University, Washtenaw Community College and University of Michigan. In the Spirit of the UCC moto, "That They All Shall Be One", Beacon Center serves as a uniting and unifying umbrella across our congregation serving persons sources through our three other community social justice ministry networks. Those ministries (each detailed below) include WICIR (Washtenaw Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Rights) serving the immigrant communities, MI-ONA (Michigan Open and Affirming Coalition) serving LGTBQ+ persons, and WeROC (Washtenaw Regional Organizing Coalition) which brings together faith, labor and community organizations to address local issues.

The Beacon Center is committed to advocate for self-determination and education for all people, especially students living in poverty, persons of color experiencing racism, and other de-humanizing circumstances and conditions. Beacon Center's student demographics include persons of color, immigrants, minorities, LGTBQ+ folk, women, those with special needs, the economically disadvantaged, those facing housing insecurity, the financially challenged, and the working poor. For additional information on the Beacon Center, please contact Rev. Liz Larrivee at lizlarrivee@gmail.com

IMMIGRATION MINISTRY – WASHTENAW INTERFAITH COALITION FOR IMMIGRANT RIGHTS (WICIR)

Since 2008, **WICIR** has been working with, and in support of, immigrants in Washtenaw County facing challenges of many kinds. At our inception the primary need that brought us together was to support people facing enforcement action by ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement); most often detention, deportation, and removal. To date, WICIR

has responded to 650 calls. Always in partnership with folks most affected, many actions and services have evolved as identified by our immigrant siblings, while always keeping focused on our original mission:

To provide culturally sensitive and supportive urgent response to those in Washtenaw County in immigration-related crises; impact local governmental policies to empower and protect immigrant community members; and work toward humane national immigration reform.

Our outreach has been significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Many in immigrant communities have experienced significant challenges as they struggle to pay rent, provide food for their families and other basic survival needs. To respond, WICIR, in partnership with Mexiquenses in Michigan (from St. Francis of Assisi Parish), has raised and distributed $200,000 relief funds to immigrants and their families. We have a waiting list of those still in need and will continue this effort as funds are available.

For information about what's happening with immigrant rights and **Washtenaw Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Rights**, or if you are interested in learning ways to help, please contact Melanie Harner at melharner@gmail.com or through the WICIR website: https://wicir.org/. You can also find a link on the church website.

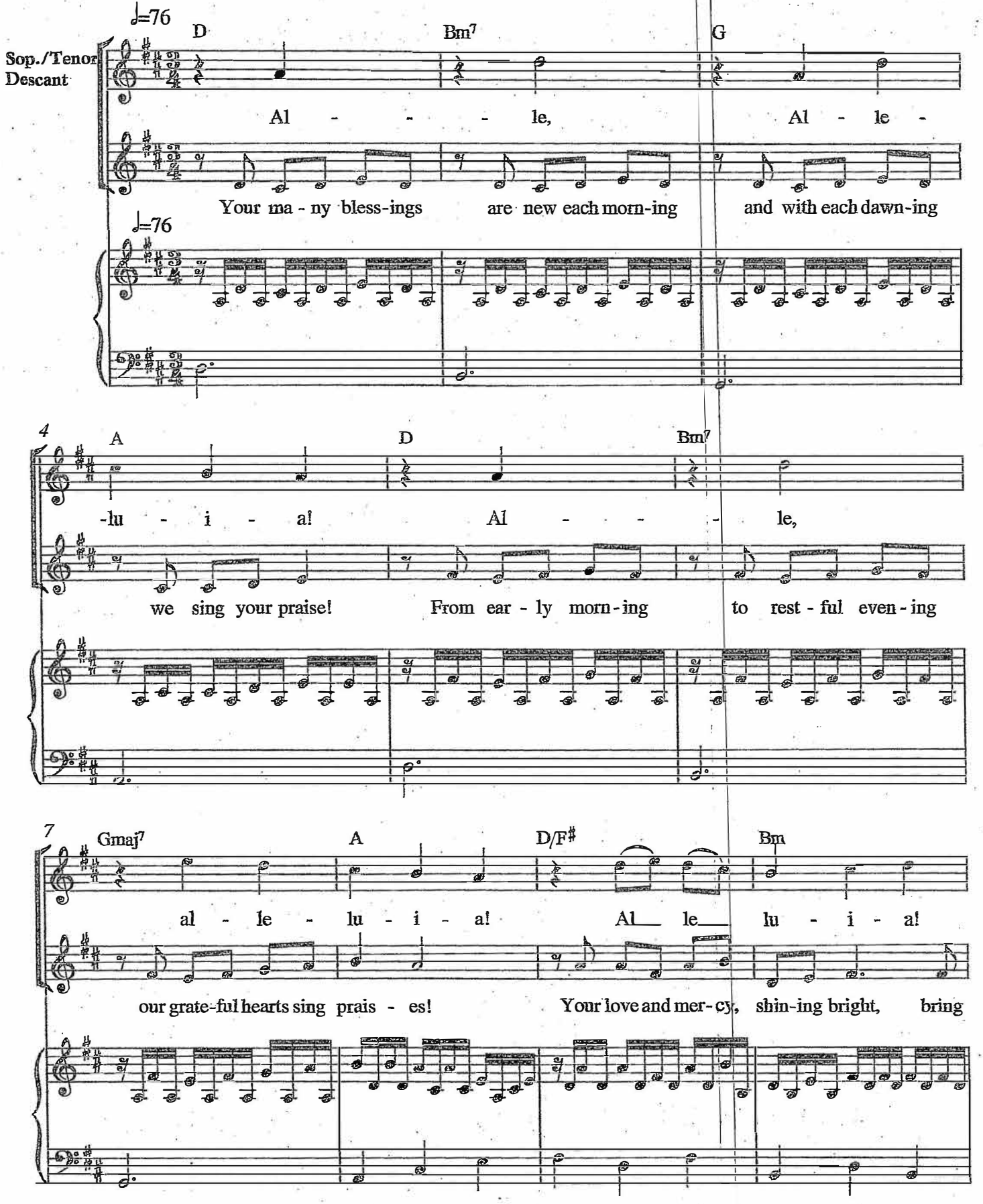
WASHTENAW REGIONAL ORGANIZING COALITION

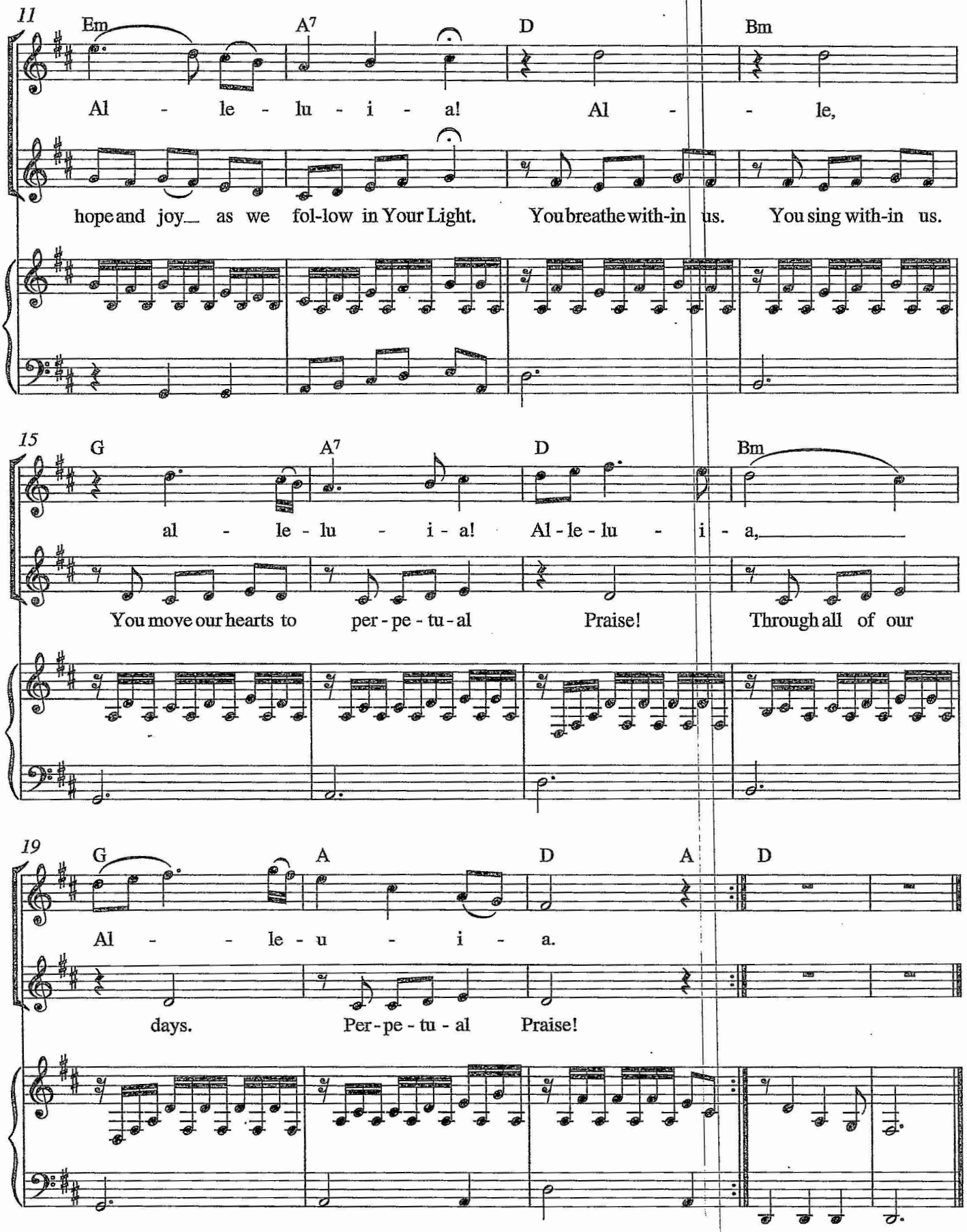
First Congregational is a founding institution of the local "organization of organizations" **WeROC (Washtenaw Regional Organizing Coalition)**. In many ways, WeROC is a larger illustration of the values and mission we try to live out at First Congregational. WeROC members are, at our core, focused on intentionally re-weaving the frayed fabric of community at a time when forces are at work every day to keep us fragmented, suspicious of each other, feeling isolated. Especially in this time when so many are being hit by the health and economic crises, WeROC's focus on raising voices of those most affected is more important than ever (See COVID-19 Resources at www.werocmi.org) WeROC's Mission Statement is:

WeROC brings together faith, labor, community organizations, and individuals to build the healthy collective power needed to break down the systems that sustain injustice, racism, and economic inequality.

WeROC is affiliated with the Detroit Metro organization MOSES and the Gamliel National Network. Contact Tad Wysor at tadwysor@gmail.com or 734-883-3225.

This past election year showed us good things can happen when we're working together in the same direction. WeROC is moving rapidly **forward** to keep momentum going and find ways to continue to be more effective together in making our communities healthier and more vibrant places; improving the lives of *everyone* in big ways-- especially those who are most vulnerable and whose voice have seldom been heard.

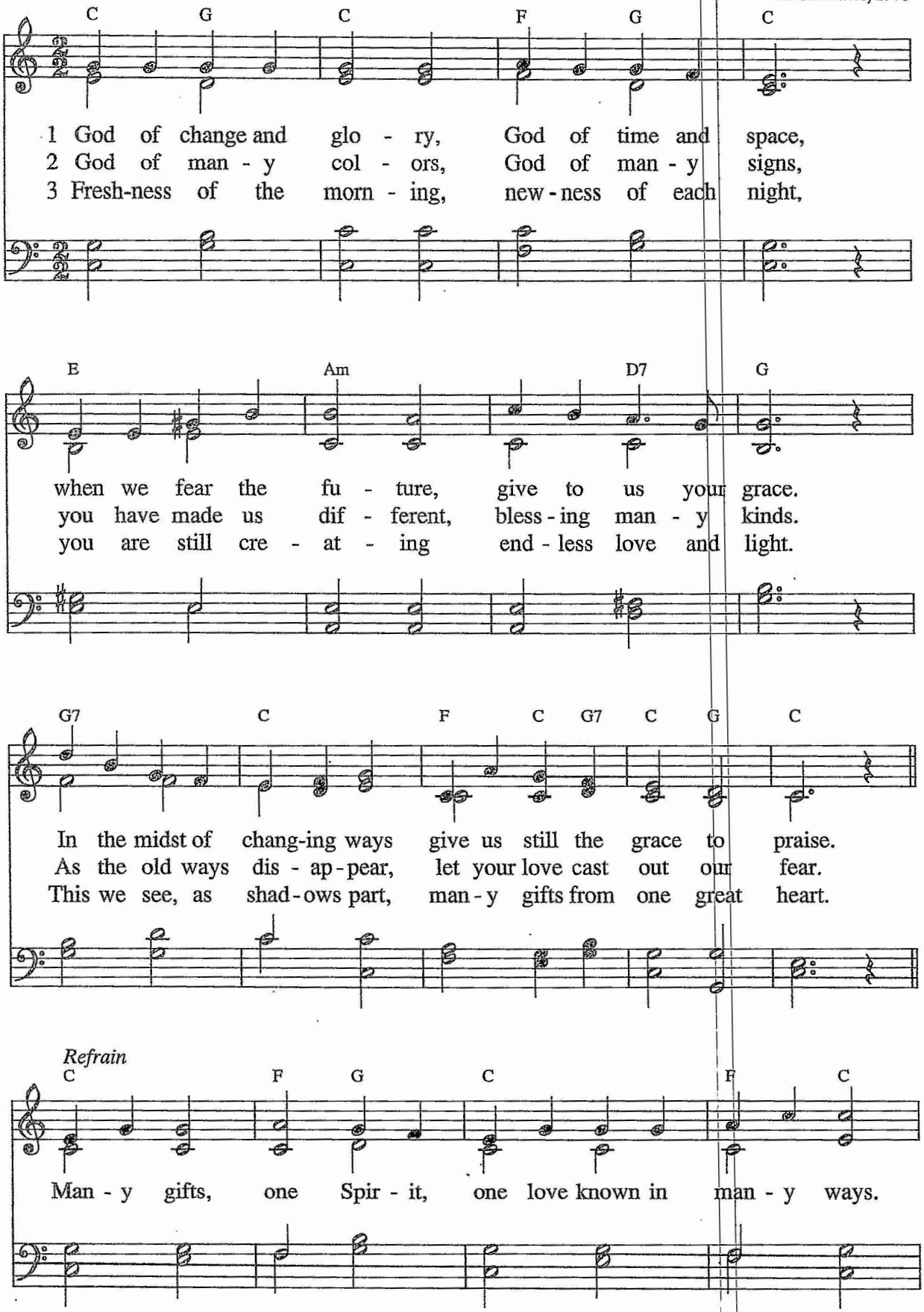
1 Perpetual Praise!

♩=76
D
Bm7
G
Sop./Tenor
Descant
Al - - - le, Al - le -
Your ma - ny bless-ings are new each morn-ing and with each dawn-ing
♩=76
4
A
D
Bm7
-lu - i - a! Al - - - le,
we sing your praise! From ear - ly morn - ing to rest - ful even - ing
7
Gmaj7
A
D/F♯
Bm
al - le - lu - i - a! Al le lu - i - a!
our grate-ful hearts sing prais - es! Your love and mer - cy, shin-ing bright, bring

Words and Music: Jeremy McLeod, Copyright ©1999, 2003, 2008. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

11
Em
A7
D
Bm
Al - le - lu - i - a! Al - - le,
hope and joy as we fol-low in Your Light. You breathe with-in us. You sing with-in us.
15
G
A7
D
Bm
al - le - lu - i - a! Al - le - lu - i - a,
You move our hearts to per - pe - tu - al Praise! Through all of our
19
G
A
D
A
D
Al - - le - u - i - a.
days. Per - pe - tu - al Praise!

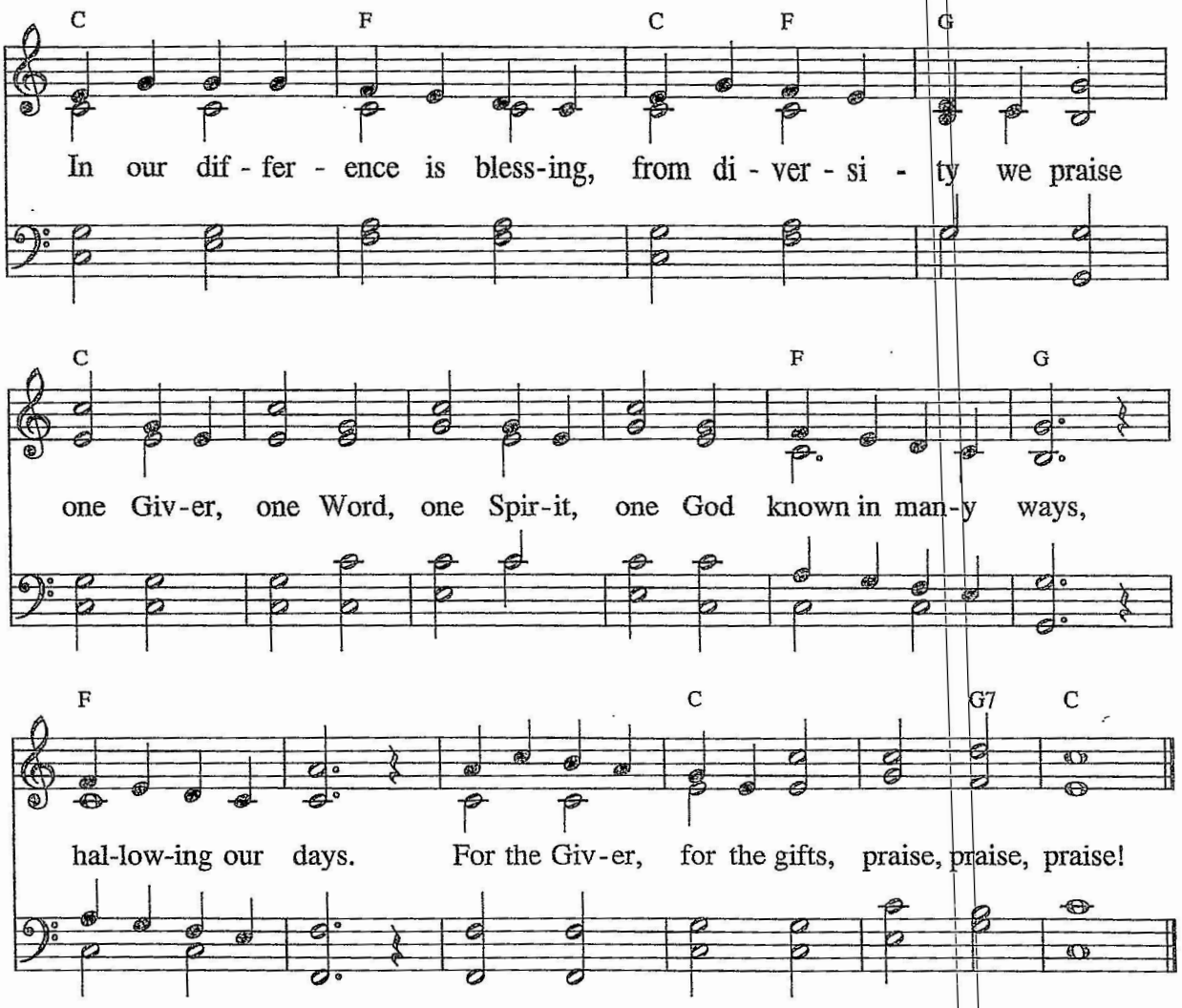
1/2

177 God of Change and Glory

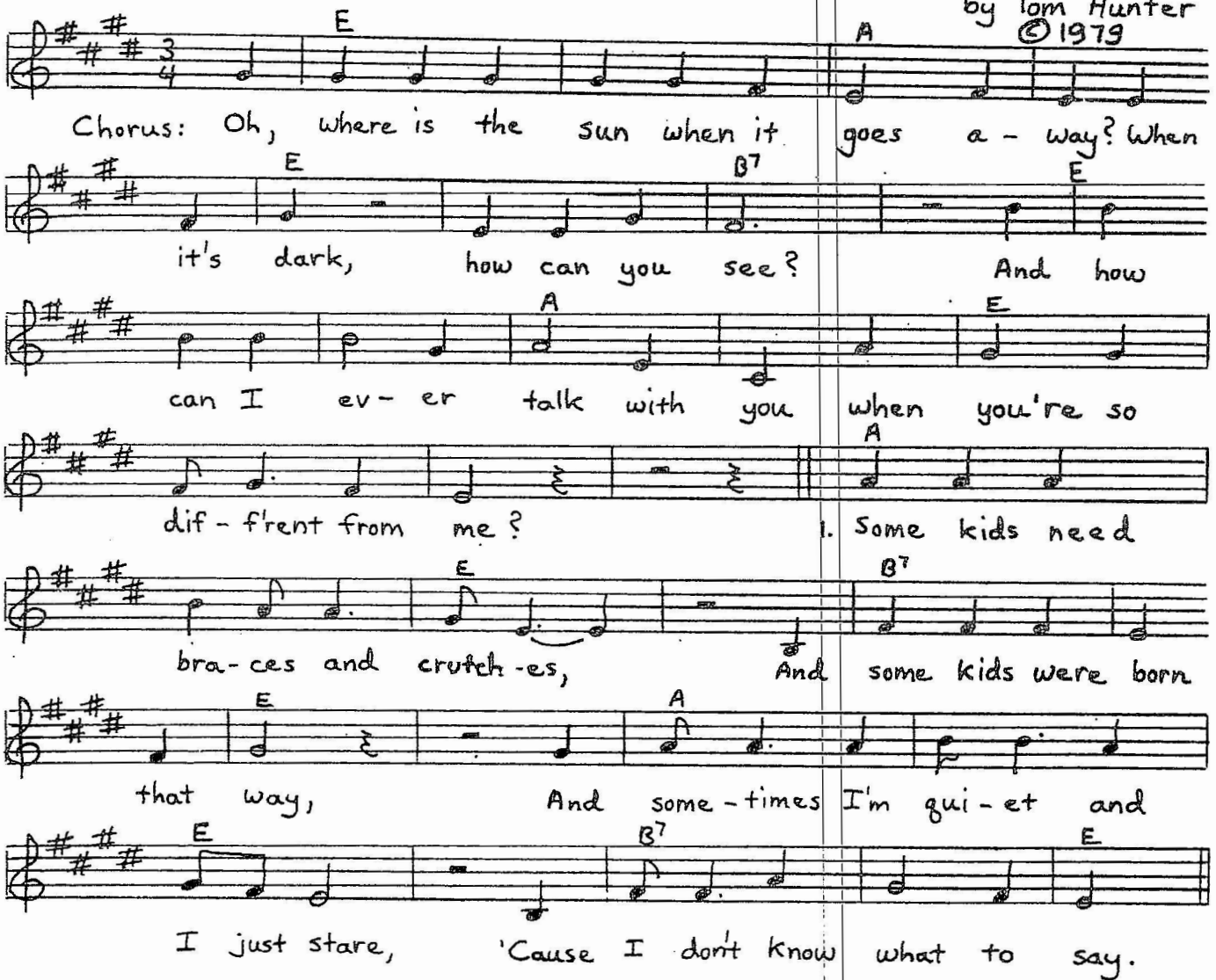
1 Cor. 12:4–27

Al Carmines, 1973

C G C F G C
1 God of change and glo - ry, God of time and space,
2 God of man - y col - ors, God of man - y signs,
3 Fresh-ness of the morn - ing, new - ness of each night,
E Am D7 G
when we fear the fu - ture, give to us your grace.
you have made us dif - ferent, bless - ing man - y kinds.
you are still cre - at - ing end - less love and light.
G7 C F C G7 C G C
In the midst of chang-ing ways give us still the grace to praise.
As the old ways dis - ap - pear, let your love cast out our fear.
This we see, as shad - ows part, man - y gifts from one great heart.
Refrain
C F G C F C
Man - y gifts, one Spir - it, one love known in man - y ways.

Al Carmines, composer, playwright, performer, and teacher, has served as minister for two United Church of Christ congregations in New York City. This hymn, commissioned in 1973, was one of the first modern texts to claim diversity as a gift from God.

Tune: KATHERINE 6.5.6.5.7.7.
Al Carmines, 1973

C F C F G
In our dif - fer - ence is bless-ing, from di - ver - si - ty we praise
C F G
one Giv-er, one Word, one Spir-it, one God known in man-y ways,
F C G7 C
hal-low-ing our days. For the Giv-er, for the gifts, praise, praise, praise!

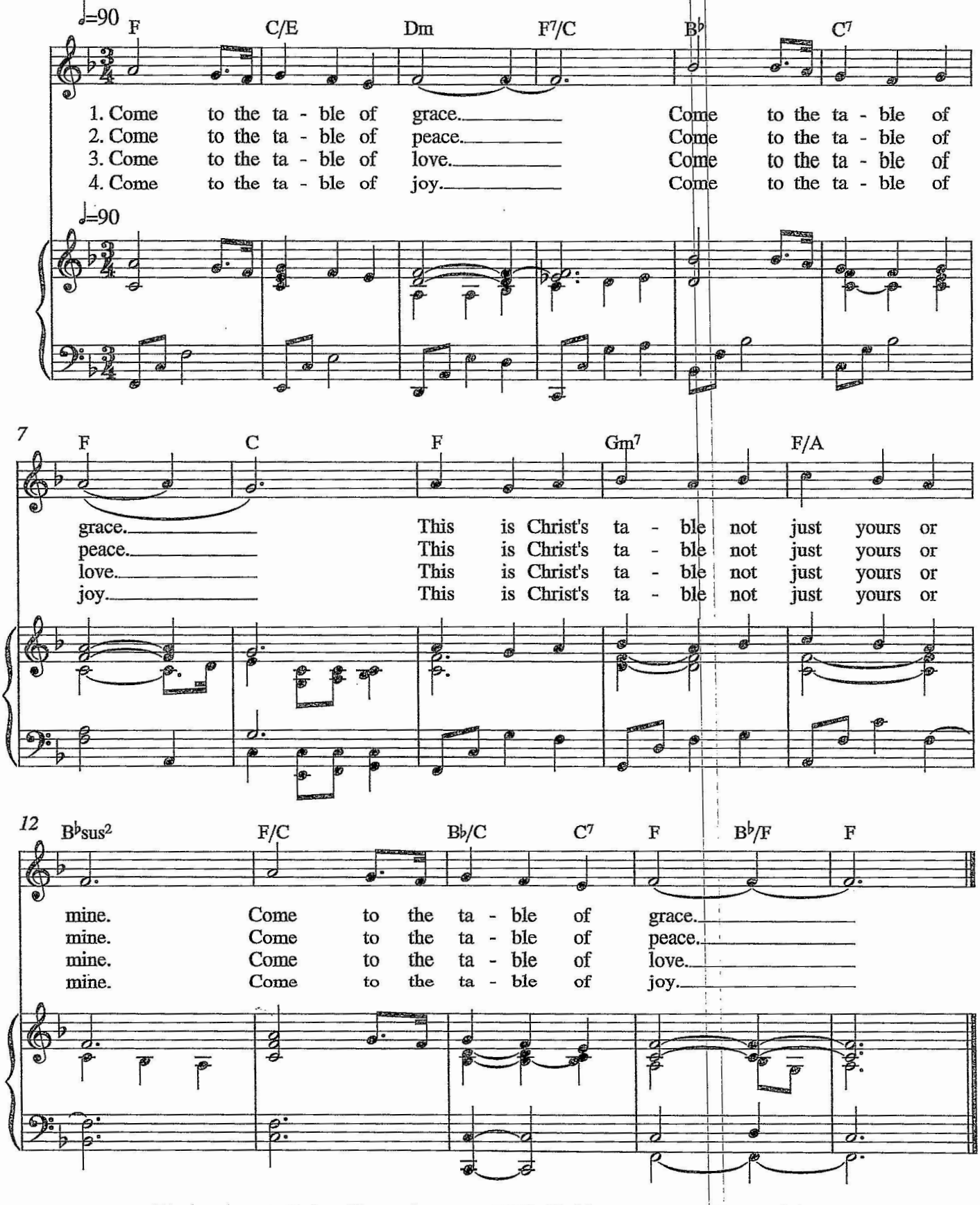
You're (Not) So Different from Me

Words and Music
by Tom Hunter
©1979

2. Johnny's got braces on both of his legs. Almost every day we play ball.
   Yesterday we climbed a tree, and I didn't help him at all.

3. I met a man in a wheelchair, who sat there and shook all the time.
   I asked him what made him happy and sad, and it wasn't much different from mine.

4. I think some folks look funny, but I don't say that to be mean.
   It's just that they look so different. I wonder how they feel about me.

5. So maybe I could wear your braces, and maybe I could ride your chair,
   And maybe we could sit much closer, instead of way over there.
   FINAL CHORUS: You say the sun's still shining when it goes away;
   When it's dark, I'm learning to see,
   And I think I can learn how to talk with you,) REPEAT
   Even though you're different from me.)

112 Come to the Table of Grace

♩=90
F C/E Dm F7/C B♭ C7
1. Come to the ta - ble of grace. Come to the ta - ble of
2. Come to the ta - ble of peace. Come to the ta - ble of
3. Come to the ta - ble of love. Come to the ta - ble of
4. Come to the ta - ble of joy. Come to the ta - ble of
♩=90
7
F C F Gm7 F/A
grace. This is Christ's ta - ble not just yours or
peace. This is Christ's ta - ble not just yours or
love. This is Christ's ta - ble not just yours or
joy. This is Christ's ta - ble not just yours or
12
B♭sus2 F/C B♭/C C7 F B♭/F F
mine. Come to the ta - ble of grace.
mine. Come to the ta - ble of peace.
mine. Come to the ta - ble of love.
mine. Come to the ta - ble of joy.

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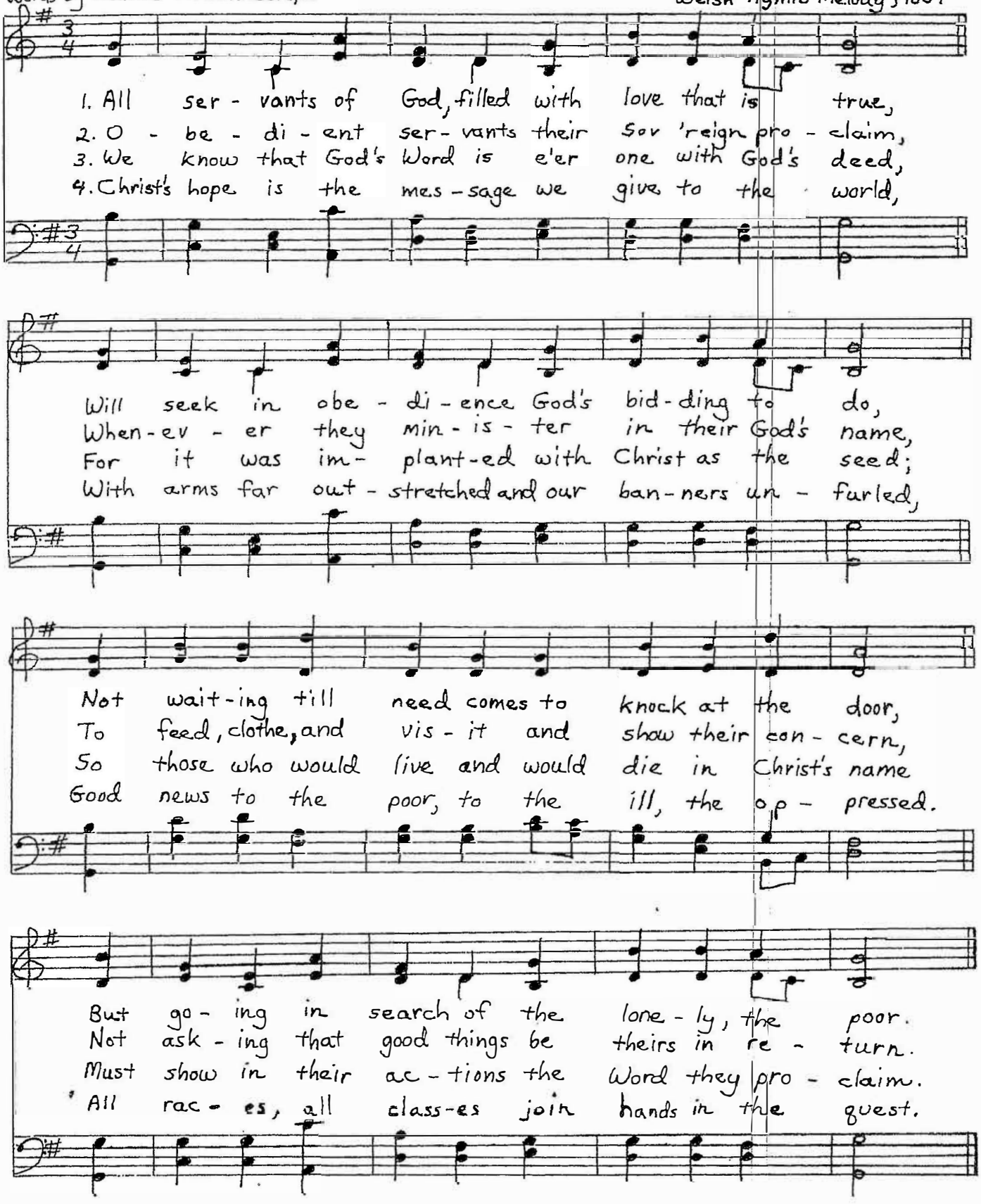
(Words revised by the Praise Song Advisory Team, 2009.)
Piano Arrangement: Thomas Fosnocht, Copyright ©2009. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

All Servants of God

Words by James E. Johnson, © 1981

ST. DENIO 11. 11. 11. 11.
Welsh Hymn Melody, 1839


1. All ser - vants of God, filled with love that is true,
2. O - be - di - ent ser - vants their Sov 'reign pro - claim,
3. We know that God's Word is e'er one with God's deed,
4. Christ's hope is the mes - sage we give to the world,
Will seek in obe - di - ence God's bid - ding to do,
When - ev - er they min - is - ter in their God's name,
For it was im - plant - ed with Christ as the seed;
With arms far out - stretched and our ban - ners un - furled,
Not wait - ing till need comes to knock at the door,
To feed, clothe, and vis - it and show their con - cern,
So those who would live and would die in Christ's name
Good news to the poor, to the ill, the op - pressed.
But go - ing in search of the lone - ly, the poor.
Not ask - ing that good things be theirs in re - turn.
Must show in their ac - tions the Word they pro - claim.
All rac - es, all class - es join hands in the quest.